CLAIMS:

5

15

20

25

- 1. An actuation device (30) for a flap element, in particular a variable top receptacle (20), having at least one wall element (22) that is pivotable between a first and a second position, wherein the actuation device comprises a fixedly borne spring element (34) that traverses a point of maximum elastic deformation between its first and second position by interacting with the wall element during pivoting of the wall element.
- 2. An actuation device (30) according to claim 1, characterized in that the spring element 10 (34) is a leaf spring.
 - 3. An actuation device (30) according to claim 2, characterized in that a fixed bracket (36) is provided, on which bracket one end of the leaf spring (34) is substantially rigidly supported in a longitudinal direction and another end of the leaf spring is movably supported in its longitudinal direction.
 - 4. An actuation device (30) according to one of claims 2 or 3, characterized in that the leaf spring (34) includes two legs connected via a curved portion, wherein the curved portion is arranged and curved such that its curvature lies within an angle (α) traversed by the wall element (22) during its pivoting movement and wherein the middle point of its radius of curvature and the pivotal axis of the wall element lie on opposing sides of the leaf spring.
 - 5. An actuation device (30) according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the spring element (34) cooperates with a lever element (32) that is fixedly present on the wall element (22).
 - 6. An actuation device (30) according to claim 5, characterized in that the lever element (32) is affixed to the wall element (22) proximal to the pivotal axis of the wall element.
- 7. An actuation device (30) according to claim 5 or 6, characterized in that the lever element is cam-shaped.

- 8. An actuation device (30) according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the point of maximum deflection of the spring element (34) lies substantially at the bisecting line of the angle between the first and second positions of the wall element (22).
- 9. An actuation device (30) according to one of the preceding claims, characterized in that the spring element (34) elastically biases the wall element (22) at least in the first or the second position.